HCTV LAUNCHES
For some information the re-launch of Hamilton College Television, see **page 10.**

STATE OF THE UNION
For a face off on President Obama's State of the Union Address, see **page 5.**

FEBFEST 2013
For an overview of FebFest, see **pages 8-9.**

HAMILTON COLLEGE FEBFEST 2013 MELTDOWN

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THE SPECTATOR

Thursday,
February 14, 2013

Volume LIII Number 15

PHOTO BY NANCY L. FORD

Felipe Garcia '14 becomes emotional after being crowned the 2013 Mr. Hamilton while Jamie Azdair '13 applauds.

by Meghan Doherty '14
News Contributor

Hundreds of Hamilton students crammed into the Tolles Pavilion to watch the annual campus male beauty pageant, Mr. Hamilton on Monday, Feb. 11. The show was sponsored by the Social Traditions Committee and FebFest. The contestants were Jamie Azdair '13, Knute Gailor '13, Tae-Wook Lucas Kang '13, Lyman Munschauer '13, Nico Keller Sarmiento '13, Dennis Tung '13, Felipe Garcia '14, Noah Levinson '14, Mike De Percin '15, Dyllon Young '15 and Michael Dyer '16. Men were representing organizations on campus including athletic teams, fraternities and clubs.

All proceeds of this year's show went to Operation Smile, a medical non-profit that provides free surgeries to children with facial deformities like cleft lips and cleft palates. These children live in developing nations, and a simple procedure could be life changing for them. Co-Presidents Leah Krause '14 and Kara Shannon '14 created the Operation Smile club at Hamilton last fall in order to raise awareness about facial deformities and money for surgeries to correct them. Leah started working with the organization in July 2011

*see **Mr. Hamilton**, page 3*

Hamilton Democrats gather for State of the Union

by Brian Sobotko '16
News Writer

This Tuesday night, an enthusiastic group of Hamilton students and Clinton locals gathered in the Sadove Living Room and Sun Porch to watch President Obama deliver his first State of the Union address of his second term.

A modest yet energetic group of about 30 students and 15 locals from Organizing for Action attended the watch party, sponsored by the Hamilton College Democrats. This event, similar in structure to the last semester's campaign events including a convention speech, debates and election night coverage, certainly saw a smaller crowd.

However, despite the lack of a winner at the end of the night, the night provided an opportunity for people to come together, listen to President Obama's agenda and discuss their own opinions. Tracy Mazerolle '15, who planned the event for the College Democrats, was happy with the event.

"Between the attendees from the Hamilton community and the wonderful OFA folks that came, we thought the turnout was pretty good, especially given that other great events were happening on campus at the same time. We had also anticipated a smaller turnout in comparison to last semester's events partly because the State of the Union Address lacks the inherent 'suspense' that accompanied the debates and election night," Mazerolle said.

This event comes after a politically charged election cycle for both America and the Hamilton community. The College Democrats and Republicans teamed up all of last semester in an attempt to increase the political involvement on campus, hosting a debate between students, watch parties for broadcasts related to the election among other events.

"I think a lot of it has carried over to this semester as well," Mazerolle said when addressing the activism on campus. "Although I think our school has a healthy political atmosphere in general, it's really encouraging to see the Hamilton community so interested in politics when big events are happening."

> **"He presented numerous concrete ideas for change that made a lot of sense to me, and his speech was nothing short of inspirational."**
> *—Tracy Mazerolle '15*

In Sadove, the gathered crowd appeared to enjoy the approximately one-hour long speech that, according to ABC News, saw the President interrupted by applause 74 times (maybe more by some of the enthusiastic locals).

"He presented numerous concrete ideas for change that made a lot of sense to me, and his speech was nothing short of inspirational. I found his discourse on improving our nation's gun laws particularly moving," Mazerolle said in support of the speech.

Obama laid out a bold progressive agenda calling for a response to climate change, an immigration reform package, an increase in the federal minimum wage while also calling on Congress to act to avoid next month's sequesters.

"The greatest nation on Earth cannot keep conducting its business by drifting from one manufactured crisis to the next. Let's agree, right here, right now, to keep the people's government open, pay our bills on time and always uphold the full faith and credit of the United States of America," Obama proclaimed.

The most emotional part of the speech came at the end, when Obama identified the victims of gun violence. Many victims, including Gabby Giffords and the families of children from Sandy Hook, were in the chamber for the address and received a standing ovation from the 113th Congress. Obama's speech included a repeated refrain that these victims "deserve a vote" on measures to attempt to curtail gun violence, just one of many policies laid out that will face strong opposition from the President's opponents.

Amongst politicians, thoughts on the speech seemed to split down party lines, with Democrats applauding the President's agenda while Republicans offered familiar critiques of spending.

"President Obama, he believes it's [our free enterprise economy] the cause of our problems, that the economic downturn happened because our government didn't tax enough, spend enough, or control enough. And, therefore, as you heard tonight, his solution to virtually every problem we face is for Washington to tax more, borrow more, and spend more," Florida Senator Marco Rubio said during the official Republican response.

As critical as some Republicans were, many Democrats were just as complementary of the speech.

"What we saw the President do was return to what I think is really a message of hope, something that really sets apart the great Presidents from the rest of them," said Hamilton alumnus and Democratic Congressman from Pennsylvania Matt Cartwright '83. It was Cartwright's first State of the Union address as a member of Congress.

The night, which highlighted the many problems facing America and the many different opinions as to how to best solve them, opened a dialogue about the issues that Obama will attempt to tackle over the next four years.

Whether or not Obama will be able to implement his vision remains to be seen. What was clear is that the Hamilton Democrats were pleased with what he had to say on Tuesday night.

Zeller '04 shares Afghanistan stories

by Galia Slayen '13
Social Media Editor

When Matt Zeller '04 came to Hamilton College in 2000, he had always planned on becoming a lawyer. But after the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, his path changed. Zeller remembered watching the towers fall while at Hamilton and said that he felt a "civic and familial obligation to fight for my country because my family has fought in every single war since the Revolution."

Around Christmas time in 2001, Zeller and a friend stopped by Sangertown Mall and instead of buying gifts, Zeller signed up for the Army. He graduated first in his class from the Army's Military Intelligence Officer's base course and then attended the Maxwell School at Syracuse University before being deployed to Afghanistan in 2008. While there, he began writing detailed emails about his experience to family and friends.

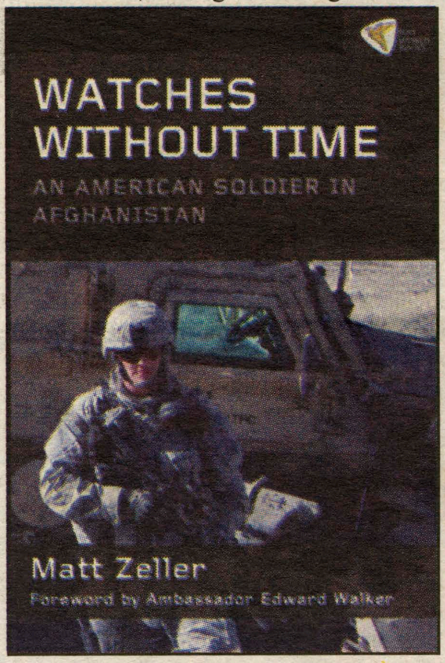


IMAGE COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL.UCLA.EDU
Zeller's memoir shares correspondences from his time in Ghazni.

"I wanted them to have something tangible that they could hold on to as a memory," Zeller said.

These writings eventually evolved into his first book, *Watches Without Time: An American Soldier in Afghanistan*. The book details his experience on the front line in Ghazni, Afghanistan and is told through the letters and emails he wrote while there.

Speaking to a large audience on Thursday, Feb. 7 in KJ Auditorium, Zeller expressed frustration with the lack of focus and strategy in America's mission in Afghanistan.

"I hate the saying the 'War on Terror' because terror is a tool of desperation. We need to have a war on the ideology that inspires someone who use terrorism," Zeller said.

Zeller shared his belief that empowering women and providing basic education are the keys to eradicating terrorism in the Middle East. Zeller continued, "Our standard of success [in Afghanistan] should be to have future Afghan children have an ideology that makes them not want to fight us."

Zeller's duty to his country later translated into an attempt to serve in Congress. In 2010, he was the Democratic nominee for New York's 29th Congressional District.

Fifty students attended his lecture in Bradford Auditorium, and Zeller left a lasting impression.

"It was really thoughtful and insightful about the problems in Afghanistan that we neglected to address," said Claeson Dillon '14.

Reshveena Rajaram '16, was moved by the presentation and found the lecture "interesting because it is a real life story based in experience and inspires us as Hamilton students to be better." Zeller's book is available online and at the Hamilton College book store.

Spiritual film library to honor Hicks '09

by Bonnie Wertheim '14
News Editor

The most effective memorials evoke the spirit of the person or event they serve to commemorate. So when the Chaplaincy started brainstorming ways in which they might honor the memory of the late Joshua Hicks '09, they knew their ideas had to be just as dynamic and community-focused as "Jicks" himself.

Their ideas resulted in the establishment of the Joshua Hicks Memorial Library in Spiritual Film. Hicks, who concentrated in Religious Studies during his time at Hamilton, completed a senior thesis on religion in film under the advisement of Professor of Religious Studies Steve Humphries-Brooks. After graduation, his spiritual scholarship continued, and he intended to become a minister.

Hicks's academic interests and his career aspirations led naturally to the decision to expand and diversify the Chapel's media offerings as an homage to him.

"We have a lot of lot of books up here," Chaplain Jeff McArn said of the Chapel's third-floor collection. However, he expressed the belief that films are "more compelling and accessible."

On Thursday, Feb. 21, there will be a dedication ceremony for the Joshua Hicks Memorial Library in Spiritual Film. The library will be located on the Chapel's third floor, and the dedication's location is to be determined.

"It won't be much more than a dinner," said McArn. "Steve Humphries-Brooks has a copy of his thesis and a video project that was a part of it."

Hicks's brother Geoff and his sister-in-law Robin have taken lead roles in bringing the library to life.

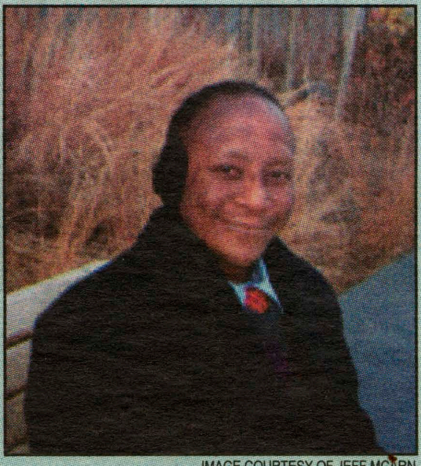


IMAGE COURTESY OF JEFF MCARN
Geoff Hicks '09 chose this photo of his brother to sit in the library.

Initially, the dedication had been scheduled to take place during Spirituality 101 Week, but because Geoff would not have been able to attend, the date was pushed back.

"There's kind of a core that Geoff said, 'These were really important to Joshua,'" McArn said.

These "core" titles will be purchased by the Chaplaincy for inclusion in the library. Additionally, members of the Religious Studies Department have suggested titles for inclusion.

"We would like it to be in his memory but also have films that would help introduce students to various religious traditions also films that just have meaning that may not have any direct religious references," said McArn.

"I thought it would be interesting to ask for peoples' suggestions or donations, particularly if you have a connection to Joshua," he added.

Clearly, the term "spiritual" in the title of the library may be applied loosely. Rather than read "spiritual" as "religious," visitors should understand the term to mean "evocative of the spirit."

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the Campus Safety Incident Report each week. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, February 7, 2013

5:53 a.m.	Property Damage – (ABC House)
8:37 a.m.	Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall
8:24 p.m.	Mechanical Issue – Wertimer House

Friday, February 8, 2013

8:37 a.m.	Criminal Mischief – Kirner Johnson
12:26 p.m.	Alarm Activation – Beinecke Village ATM
4:48 p.m.	Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall
5:56 p.m.	Medical Emergency – Beinecke Village
9:53 p.m.	Medical Emergency – Alumni Gym
11:03 p.m.	Noise Complaint – Rogers Estate
11:25 p.m.	Disorderly Conduct – North Road

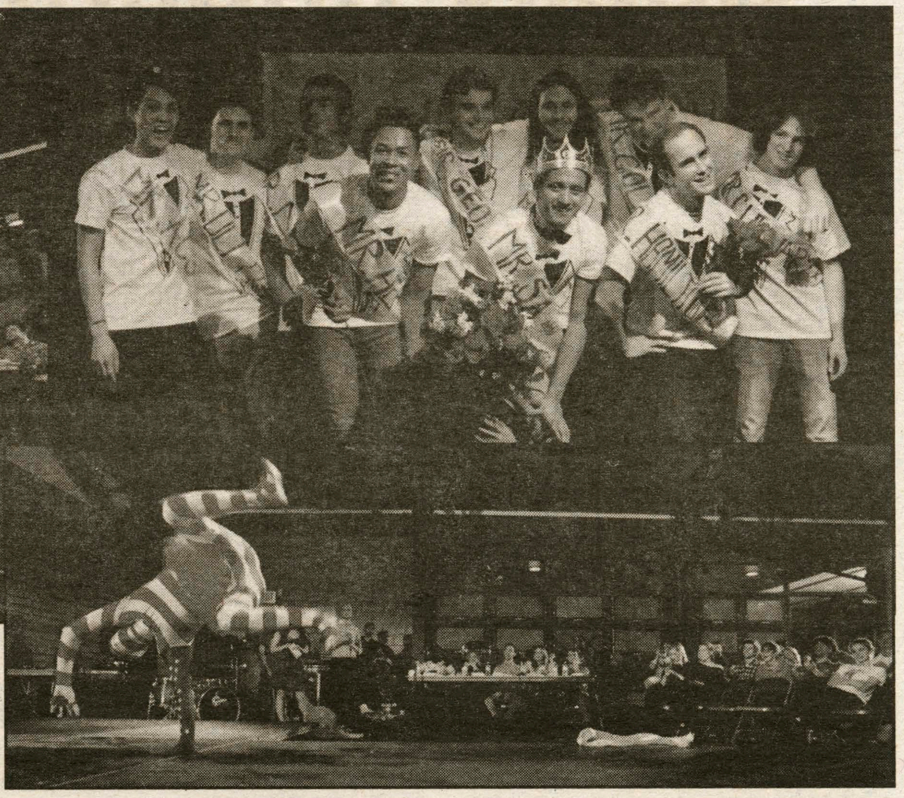
Saturday, February 9, 2013

12:05 a.m.	Fire Alarm Activation – Sadove Student Center
12:15 a.m.	Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall
1:10 a.m.	Disorderly Conduct – Carnegie Residence Hall
10:40 a.m.	Criminal Mischief – North Residence Hall
9:58 p.m.	Medical Emergency – Wellin Hall
11:49 p.m.	Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Sunday, February 10, 2013

12:54 a.m.	Noise Complaint – Carnegie Residence Hall
1:11 a.m.	Noise Complaint – Milbank Residence Hall
3:24 a.m.	Medical Emergency – McEwen Dining Hall

Garcia '14 claims Mr. Hamilton crown



PHOTOS BY NANCY L. FORD

Clockwise, from left: Tae-Wook Lucas Kang '13 covered The White Stripes. The contestants come together for a group shot with their sashes and bouquets. Lyman Munschauer '13 showed off his gymnastic skills during the talent segment of the pageant.

from Mr. Hamilton, page 1

during a conference in Beijing, China. The club raised over $1000 through ticket and T-shirt sales. Leah estimates that at least four children will receive surgeries from the pageant.

Similar to the Miss America pageant, the show comprised four sections: evening wear, swimsuit, talent and question and answer. Five judges offered comments and criticism throughout the night. The show also featured performances by HEAT, the dance team and the finesse team.

Michael Breslin '13 and Ashley Vanicek '13 hosted the event. In addition to announcing new rounds and communicating with the judges, they even managed to squeeze in a few costume changes.

Social Traditions implemented a twitter feed display as a way of keeping the show rolling even as the men changed costumes or set the stage. Members of the audience could "live tweet the event" themselves by tagging @mistahammy or #MrHamilton2013. The tweets were then displayed on a screen adjacent to the stage for the audience's enjoyment.

The talent portion was when the contestants could really showcase their personalities. They ranged from sweet, Mr. Hamiltones, Keller-Sarmiento and Mr. Ultimate Frisbee, Levinson both sang and played piano, to obscure, Mr. IMF Azdair, taped flags to his chest and flexed to the beat of a song. Mr. Geology Society, Munschauer performed a patriotic gymnastics routine in a spandex suit.

Some of the Mr. Hamilton hopefuls even invited friends to help out with their talent portion. Mr. HEAT, Young, was able to perform a routine with the very group he represented. Mr. Silent Disco, Kang, sang a couple songs with a live band.

By the end of the night, the judges brought the pageant to a conclusion and it was Mr. Student Assembly Garcia who walked home with the crown.

Garcia dazzled the crowd by performing a dance routine to a medley of popular songs, including "Thrift Shop" by Macklemore and "Sandstorm" by Darude. The dance routine ended in a rifle spinning routine, a talent Felipe has been practicing for years. He was a captain in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) during high school where he competed statewide and placed first in the state of Florida as a junior in high school.

Garcia competed in last year's competition but did not manage to place. On getting nervous, he said, "even though I get crippling stage fright and my asthma almost knocks the breath out of me during a big performance, the feeling that I get when I put on a good show is euphoric." He credits Beyonce as his inspiration and wanted to appear as "effortless" as she did when she performed the Super Bowl half time show.

Young was named the second runner up, and Keller-Sarmiento was the first runner up.

Tara Huggins '14, who helped organize the event, said, "compliments to the guys who participated; it takes a lot of guts and we had really great guys this year." She was thrilled that so many groups on campus came together to participate in one event.

On his participation in future shows, second runner-up Young commented, "I can't wait for senior year. I'm after the crown." Whether he will follow in the footsteps of Garcia is yet to be determined.

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC NEWS

by Jack Cartwright '15
News Editor

BOWDOIN CAN'T CAP ITS CLASSES

While many NESCAC schools are known for their small class sizes, Bowdoin College has been having trouble bearing this standard. According to the Bowdoin Orient, 45 classes this semester "have exceeded the maximum enrollment." The Mathematics Department has the most with nine over-enrolled classes, while the Government Department comes in a distant second with just four classes that exceed the normal capacity.

It seems that the over-enrollment has become an epidemic at the College. While not all departments have as many classes over capacity as the Mathematics and Government Departments, the problem spans across several departments that may have one or more classes that have too many students. For example, *The Orient* points out that Professor Samuel Putnam's Psychology 101 class has 64 students. While that number seems large, it pales in comparison to the 96 students in a Classical Mythology class in the spring semester of 2012.

Dean of Academic Affairs Christle Collins Judd told *The Orient*, "If there's nothing special about the introductory class, the minimum maximum is fifty." Professors are allowed to then admit additional students at their choosing.

Furthermore, Judd said that the 18-student cap on language classes was "non-negotiable," yet as *Orient* staff writer Marisa McGarry points out, there are 19 students currently enrolled in Spanish 102 and both sections of Spanish 204. The numbers question just how "non-negotiable" those caps are.

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Like to write? Join *The Spectator* staff!

Email spec@hamilton.edu for more information

Sticky fingers in the suites

Living in our Central New York bubble, we often forget that we are not immune to the woes of the outside world. However, any Hamiltonian who has had the pleasure of gracing the long, winding halls of Milbank and Babbitt residence halls on the dark side knows of their devastating plague: "suite-shopping."

Suite-shoppers, for those fortunate members of the community who are not yet familiar with the term, are thieves who make their way through dark side common rooms, stealing any items they deem their own. Admittedly this should be common knowledge, but let it be known that these items belong to the respective suite residents, not the wider Hamilton community!

The most frequent (but perhaps least worrisome) items stolen from common rooms are found in refrigerators and cabinets. And, while many consider these items the worst suite-shopping offense, Easy-Mac and mixers are, in reality, quite simple to replace.

Far more valuable items have also grown legs and feet on the dark side, sneakily escaping common rooms without notice. Laptops, iPods, sound systems, video games, televisions, blankets, snuggies, tables, chairs and even futons have also been stolen from suites.

This week, Campus Safety Director Fran Manfredo sent an e-mail out to the campus, reporting "two thefts of valuable electronic equipment from the common areas in Milbank and Babbitt residence halls." In this e-mail, he urged us to lock away our valuable items and never hesitate to report suspicious activity to Campus Safety.

Beyond these incidents, we must bear in mind that stealing occurs in dorms outside of the dark side suites, as well. Many common rooms and even individual dorm rooms throughout campus are subject to the same dangers as the dark side suites. In addition, recent Campus Safety incident reports have included burglary and theft from various buildings around campus, including Soper Commons and Bundy Dining Hall.

This is inexcusable. Members of the Hamilton community should respect their peers and their peers' belongings. Stealing is not, by any means, an appropriate or respectful way to obtain cool stuff. And that is something that should not have to be taught at one of the top colleges in our nation.

Locks between suites are one possible solution, but that would diminish the openness of the dorms. After all, a large part of the allure of the dark side suites is their socially welcoming layout. We must all remember to secure our precious belongings in the confines of our own locked rooms and be on the lookout for any suspicious behavior in our, or anyone else's, suites.

Corrections: In the 2/7/13 article entitled "College Town-Gown Fund donates $65,000 to Clinton municipalities," Professor John O'Neal of the French Dept. serves on the town-gown committee, not Professor John O'Neill.

In the 2/7/13 article entitled "New facility promises more opportunities for Hamilton artists," the new arts facility was incorrectly called the "Wellin Arts Facility." The facility has not yet been named.

***The Spectator* editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.**

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

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The State of the Union

Hamilton Democrats and Republicans face-off on Tuesday night's address

by John Johnson '14
Hamilton Decmocrat

President Obama's State of the Union address outlined his plans for the next year, and likely for the next four, with clarity and elegance. He suggests a prosperous future not only for the nation, but also for our generation specifically.

After delivering an introduction calling for bipartisanship and highlighting successes of the past year, Obama launched into the most pressing issue today; the ongoing budget crises. Praising the work done to lower the federal deficit already, and admitting that it was due to spending cuts at least as much as due to the tax cuts to the wealthy, was an excellent way for Obama to mention his own victories while also expressing admiration for the work of his Republican opponents. Looking forward, he mentioned that the "sequester" must not be allowed to gut education spending or social welfare programs without a matching decrease in defense spending, something I whole-heartedly agree with. While defense spending is certainly important, we should not let it take such an uncompromising priority over educating our children and caring for our citizens.

Looking further ahead, Obama aims to reduce tax loopholes for the wealthy and to allow wealthier seniors to draw less from Medicare and Medicaid. This makes complete sense; how can we, in good conscience, allow those most able to pay taxes a way to weasel out of doing so while those worse off pay all they owe? It is unfair and only serves to undermine the poor and the middle class. Keeping wealthy seniors from drawing on Medicare or Medicaid would keep people out of the welfare program who do not need that support, as we saw happen during the Clinton Administration. Hopefully this logical way to reduce spending is similarly embraced by both parties. As the President mentioned, over-funding our seniors now means less to support for younger generations like our own.

President Obama went on to discuss the updating of the nation's infrastructure, including further investment in alternative energy and high-speed rail. He also mentioned the priority of infrastructure repair and maintenance such as repairing of tens of thousands of bridges as well as tending to the nation's schools. All of this, he clarified, is already covered by the budget and therefore not increasing the federal deficit.

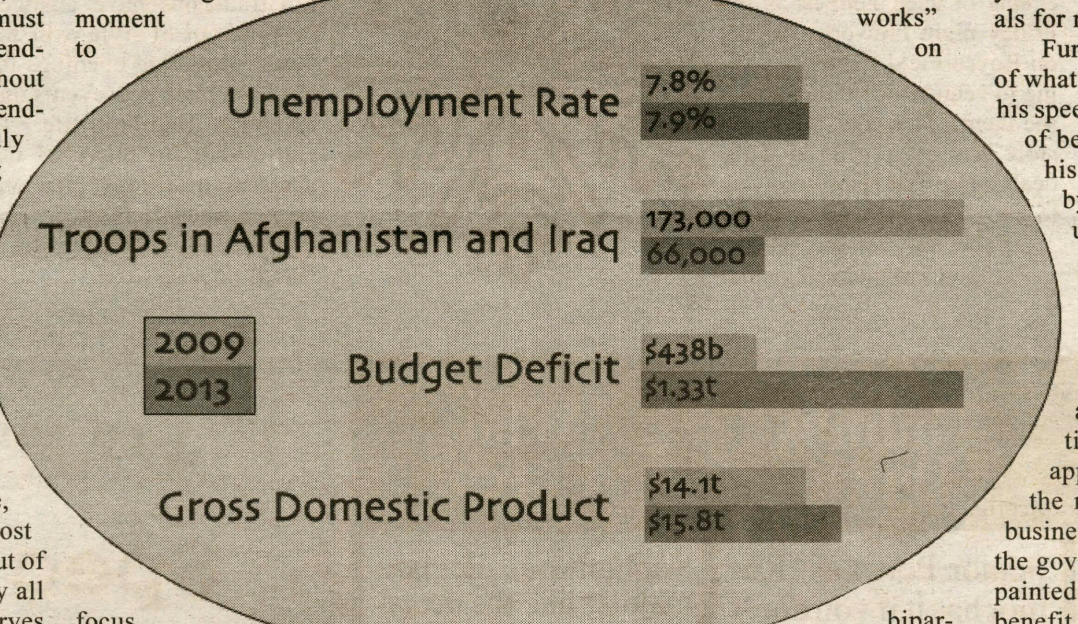
Meanwhile, the advantages of these actions are clear; further investment in renewable energy sources means greener energy for us as we get older, investment in transportation means a more productive and well-connected society to live in and more investment in our schools means our future children will have better schools in which to learn. More immediately, increased investment in infrastructure and education would result in more jobs in engineering and the sciences that could potentially be filled by Hamilton grads, and the proposed increase in funding for low-cost colleges could help our own need-blind school. In any case, a brighter future tomorrow requires investments today.

Even more relevant to student life was Obama's vocal support for the Violence Against Women Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act, which were significant gestures for women's rights. If these bills are passed, half the nation's population and more then half of Hamilton students would enjoy greater protection from abuse under the law in addition to a guarantee of equal pay, both of which are noble (many would argue common sense) goals.

Taking a moment to focus on international matters, the President aims to improve the image of the U.S. by ending the war in Afghanistan, supporting Israel in finding a lasting peace, and helping to eliminate third world poverty. He expressed hope after seeing many U.S. supporters during his visit to Burma. A more favorable image of the U.S. in other countries could have a significant impact on the nation's peace in our own lifetimes, so I hope these efforts are undertaken and successful.

In an impassioned end to his speech, President Obama described the need for increased gun control, including the instatement of required background checks and smaller magazines for legal guns. Such legislation would be the first steps towards refining an important right initially guaranteed during the age of swords and muskets in order to protect another right which is even more important: every person's right to life.

All in all, it was an excellent speech. There were a few topics the President may have left out like marriage equality, the conflict in Syria and controversial drone use, which he only mentioned implicitly. Overall, the ninety-minute speech presented a clear agenda for Obama's time left in office and set some important goals for the nation's future.



by William Swett '16
Hamilton Repbulican

Although the remarks and proposals made in Tuesday's State of the Union Address sounded uplifting and new, President Obama was hiding his incompetence by watering down his potentially destructive plans with clichés. He may have seemed like a revolutionary to some when he remarked on the importance of the future of generations to come.

What is hidden behind the generalizations about a perfect society is his failed leadership and the ever present finger of blame towards the opposite party. President Obama has made these same accusations and proposals for the past four years now and justifies his inability to pass this wish list to "do what works" on bipartisan gridlock that he has not even tried to solve. Once again, President Obama has shown that he is full of empty promises and impractical solutions.

What Mr. Obama does not understand is the opportunity to pursue ones dreams is not a gift bestowed upon the people by the grace of Washington. The ability to ascend to the middle class—"the pursuit of happiness" which is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, is a right of all citizens, and is best accomplished through individual choice, in a free economy where, through hard work and determination, anything is possible. The ever-present social ladder is, and always has been, one of the staples of United States' greatness and if the tax reforms the President has proposed become a reality, then that ladder will become a slide where everyone falls to the bottom.

By increasing taxes on the wealthy members of society yet again, President Obama hopes to grow the economy and improve the GDP. However, by increasing taxes on the job-creators of America, the costs will only be passed on to their employees and customers, making it harder to become a middle class citizen. There was one silver lining to President Obama's tax proposals, which was his call to lower corporate tax rates. This would bring profits, companies and jobs back from overseas. More American investments at home instead of in foreign countries will mean a lower unemployment rate and more opportunities for the graduating Hamilton students who will be heading to the real world next year.

President Obama has touted his reduction of the deficit as a triumph, yet he seems to forget that the annual deficit remains above a trillion dollars, and he has presided over more debt in four years than his predecessor did in eight. Puzzlingly, to reduce the deficit going forward, President Obama plans to increase government spending and magically decreasing the deficit at the same time. Obama claims that the United States deficit is the most important issue, yet his speech was littered with proposals for more government spending.

Furthermore, much to the contrary of what President Obama stated during his speech, the deficit is not on the path of being stabilized; the report from his own debt commission opened by saying "our nation is on an unsustainable fiscal path", which would "put America at risk" with continued inaction. The wealthy and the successful are called upon to "do their part" by paying higher taxes to solve a problem that Washington politicians created, perpetuate, and appear unable to solve. Why is it the responsibility of hard working businessmen to clean up the mess of the government? President Obama has painted the picture that tax hikes and benefit cuts as the only ways to reduce the deficit, but history shows that if the economy is allowed to grow without reckless spending, wealth creation and new tax payers will generate faster growth economically and in government revenue.

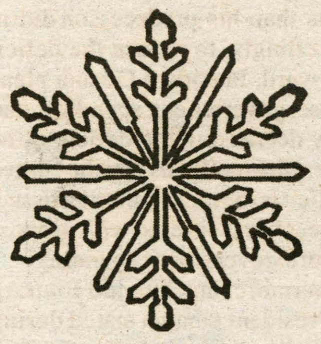
Although most of these tax plans and deficit reforms matter little to the average Hamilton student now, what does matter is the reforms to student loans which President Obama called for on Tuesday. He is accurate that the interest rate for student loans should be kept low in order to support the continued pursuit of students like us who want to get a higher education. What is troubling is President Obama's demand to "make sure [colleges] keep costs down". This is clearly not the role of the federal government to involve itself in decisions of private institutions.

Perhaps if the federal government reduced its role in college financing and allowed competition to thrive, the laws of economics would reduce the cost of college and college loans. I think we would all like to see the Hamilton tuition go down by a few bucks. Unfortunately, by using simple analytical skills one can see that the State of the Union is not what President Obama has depicted it to be and reality will catch up with him eventually.

Keeping the spirit of FebFest alive yearround

by Keith MacArtney '13
Managing Editor

FebFest, a weeklong series of on-campus events primarily sponsored by the Social Traditions Committee of Student Assembly and the Campus Activities Board (CAB), is a great example of how student life at Hamilton should be throughout the year. While the idea of FebFest is to bring some lighthearted fun to the cold, sometimes less interesting month of February, these events would serve a far greater purpose if they were spread throughout the month or even semester.



The 2013 FebFest schedule is particularly exciting. Some of the larger events include the Mr. Hamilton pageant, the acoustic coffeehouse featuring Josh Ritter, Jeff Mangum's Valentines Day IMF concert, the Hamilton College Figure Skating Club's performance of Disney on Ice, the Snow Ball late night on Friday night and the Emerson Literary Society's beloved Rocky Horror Picture Show party on Saturday night.

Some of the more intimate events this year include the various beer, chocolate and cheese tastings, the Grammy viewing party, the Chili Cook-off and late night breakfast in Commons. One of the more special events of each FebFest is the Friday night fireworks display on Royce Field for those willing to venture out in the cold to see them. This year, the bookstore has even offered daily deals on various Hamilton swag to honor the FebFest tradition.

Especially in the blistering cold of February in central New York, we can all agree that these types of events provide our community with reason to emerge from dormitory hibernation other than our usual routine of classes, meetings and practices. However, up here in central New York, the winter hibernation period lasts far longer than just one week in February. With that in mind, our various campus life groups should work to host these types of special events throughout the winter and perhaps even throughout the year. These events bring our community together, bridging the apparent divide between members of our cliquey, lightside-darkside culture. They provide a fun way for friends to meet up around campus and enjoy each other's presence.

Liz Amster '13 commented, "This has been the best FebFest yet, so props to them, but I wish it was the whole month of February. If you're really busy this one week, you miss out on a lot. I couldn't see Josh Ritter or go to the beer tasting because I had a presentation. If it was stretched out over the course of a month, maybe more people would have the opportunity to go to more events."

Throughout the year, various organizations host events on the Hill much like those of FebFest. And while I salute the efforts of these groups, there should be more! At a small college like Hamilton, we need to be proactive in making sure that everyone feels a part of the community, and the best way to ensure that is through events like FebFest that keep our spirits up. Many Hamilton traditions have changed or gone out of style over the years, providing openings for us to establish new events that epitomize Hamilton life. To consolidate so many of our greatest traditions into one packed week seems silly. Every week should be FebFest at Hamilton.

Letter to the Editor

Re: Women's ice hockey squeaks out wing vs. Wesleyan

Last week's article "Women's ice hockey squeaks out win vs. Wesleyan" referred to the team as the "Lady Continentals." This moniker was also used on the front page teaser. Women's athletic teams at Hamilton College are not Lady Continentals—we are simply Continentals.

The use of the qualifier "Lady" is not only incorrect, but also demeaning. When female athletes are on the field, the ice, or the court, we are not thinking about being ladies. We are representing our school and we are competing to win. It would be absurd for anyone to suggest that our men's teams be called the Gentleman Continentals, so why use an adjective to describe us?

In recent years, colleges and universities across the country have dropped the "Lady" label, as it is generally accepted as a sexist practice. Hamilton women have never been called the Lady Continentals, nor should they be; let's not take any steps backwards in the fight for gender equality in athletics.

—Leah Cairns '13
Field Hockey Captain

Thumbs Up

Vagina Monologues: Current logo is a mere emoticon; next year's we're hoping for a full-frontal emoji

Michael Ian Black in Wellin: You haven't laughed this hard since your last business transaction!

Jeff Mangum in the chapel: We haven't changed since high school and hopefully neither has he. <3

Thumbs Down

Senior Portraits: Rumor has it if you don't make an appointment, that cropped prom pic you used on New Faces will go in its place.

Rocky Horror Saturday: less of a vagina monologue, more a vagina dialogue.

Hamilton College Republicans Giving Away Free T Shirts: but don't get them started on free health care.

Who Cares?

Sophomores declare majors: like the declaration of independence, or, if you're a theater major, a declaration of life-long financial dependence on your parents.

Valentine's Day: Once I put a seasonal joke on Facebook that said "Happy Validate Me Day" and it got no likes.

Student assembly minutes contained the phrase, "the movie channel is currently upgrading its 1980s hardware." Still no progress on our effort to replace the quill on top of the chapel with an iPad.

by Wynn Van Dusen '15 and Claire Carusillo '13

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

WANTED:
Spec Staff Cartoonists

Have something funny to say?
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Draw cartoons for *the Spectator!*

For more information, e-mail bkaufman or sawilson.

From where I sit:

Hamilton's international perspectives

by Hristina Mangelova '16, Anna Yakabe '13, Sitong Chen '16 and Renxiang Wei '15

Features Contributors

With Valentine's Day around the corner, there are more and more delicious heart-shaped candies around campus begging for you to eat them. At that sinful moment when you reach for the candy, do you ever ask yourself how the tradition of Valentine's Day emerged? What do people from other countries do on February 14? The international students on campus are here to share their stories with you.

Japan - Anna Yakabe '13

In Japan, Valentine's Day is a day when women give chocolate to men.

Men who receive chocolate will return the favor by sending chocolates on White Day, which is on March 14th.

There are two types of chocolates a woman may give: "giri" and "honmei." "Giri"or courtesy chocolates are for men who they would like to thank, such as fathers, brothers, male bosses or male teachers. "Honmei" or favorite chocolates, on theother hand, are for men for whom you have romantic feelings. In high school, the popular boys often go to school with paper bags and come home with several bags filled with chocolate. As a result of this tradition, it is not uncommon forwomen to ask boys out on dates.

Valentine's Day is also a day when girls give chocolate to each other. This is a recent trend and these types of chocolates are called "tomochoko" which means chocolate friend. At my all-girls' high school, everyone took part in this tradition and I remember staying up late on the night before preparing hundreds of sweets every year. It is alsocustomary for girls to make their own chocolate snacks, although adults tend tobuy expensive chocolates.

China - Sitong Chen '16 and Renxiang Wei '15

The QiXi festival in China is similar to Valentine's day in the Western world. The day is celebrated based on an ancient fairy tale and astronomy.

The fairy tale talks about the love story between the daughter of one goddess and a cowherd. The beautiful girl Zhinv, the seventh daughter of a goddess, escaped from the boring heavens and went to the Earth looking for fun. The beautiful girl met the cowherd, Niulang. They quickly fell in love and got married, and had two kids. Their happiness did not last long. When the goddess found out that her daughter had married a human, she forced Zhinv to go back to the heavens. Niulang was very upset and wanted his wife back. Niulang's ox heard how miserable his master was and offered his life to help Niulang get his wife back. Using the skin of his ox, Niulang flew to the heavens.

However, the goddess refused to let Niulang and Zhinv get back together. She created a wide river, the Milky Way, that separated the couple forever. Niulang became Altair, Zhinv became Vega and their children became the flanking stars of Altair.

Once a year, all the magpies in the world take pity on Zhinv and Niulang and build a bridge of magpies between them. This way, the two lovers can meet and spend time together. On this day, July 7 in the Chinese lunar calendar, people celebrate love and happiness. Many say that July 7 is the equivalent to Valentine's Day. People in China celebrate July 7 differently. Some traditions include embroidering, and eating unique food like "Qiao Guo."

However, traditionally, the Chinese make paper or bamboo bridges of magpies and enjoy family time. The festival celebrates Zhinv and Niulang's struggle for love and happiness. July 7th stands for the dream of true love that overcomes the social rules and feudal society.

Unfortunately, since East Asia has been deeply influenced by the Western culture and commercialism, the Qi Xi festival is not what it used to be. The traditional celebration is not considered to be cool by young couples.

Despite the many traditions around the , in many countries Valentine's Day is not celebrated. Nico Keller Sarmiento '13 from Argentina says that in his country February 14th is a way for the local companies to exploit Western traditions to boost their sales.

Ming Tang '16 explains that in Hong Kong, people work 49 hours a week and do not have time to celebrate Valentine's Day. It is interesting what Andrew Sprague '16 says about France, one of the most popular destinations for Valentine's Day, where people have no special traditions related to that day. Whether you celebrate Valentine's Day or not, remember to celebrate love every day. With or without the candy, loving is the most magical feeling of all!

From Where I Sit ***is a column dedicated to the international voices of Hamilton's campus. If you are an international student and are interested in contributing a column, contact Barbara Britt-Hysell (bbritthy@hamilton.edu)***

COURTESY OF SITON CHEN '15

A Chinese graphic depicts the classic fairy tale of Zhinv and Niulang

Restaurant Review:

Café CaNole offers something for everyone

by Hailey Hayman '14

Feautres Writer

Several weekends ago, I went to Cafe CaNole with five friends. Owned by the same brothers as my previously reviewed Ancora, Cafe CaNole is a vibrant Italian style restaurant located in New Hartford.

If you are lucky enough to sit in the side room, which can be reserved for large parties, you will have the silent entertainment of a black and white film, likely starring Audrey Hepburn, projected on the wall. In the spirit of the restaurant, we started our meal with a bottle of Italian Chianti. While the wine was quite enjoyable, the raspberry cosmopolitan my friend ordered tasted more like cough syrup than a cocktail.The waiter kindly comped the drink.

"The cannoli, plain or chocolate covered, is a perfect, postprandial sweet. If you have never tried a cannoli before, as was the case for my friend, this is the place to take your first bite."

The tomato mozzarella salad, which is a large chop rather than the classic layered flat cuts, was a perfect first course. The taste is wonderful, but be warned, if you're in it for the cheese, the mozzarella portion is less than hearty.

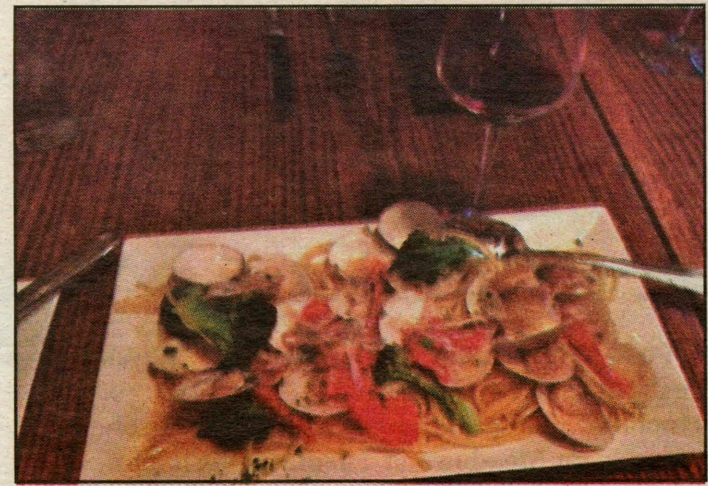
For a main dish, I recommend the clams and broccoli with linguini. The white wine sauce is worth slurping with a spoon, or pouring over some of their house cut fries with parsley, parmesan and garlic.

The portion sizes are sensible, you may have some leftovers, but most likely you will not be able to stop eating what sits in front of you. Truffled whipped potatoes were a major highlight at our table; half the group had sides. The potatoes are available as an addition to any meal or a substitute for the prescribed side of any main dish. You should not resist the dessert selection.

We opted for take out treats from the adjoined Cafe CaNole Bakery. The cannoli, plain or chocolate covered, is a perfect postprandial sweet. If you have never tried cannoli before, as was the case for my friend, this is the place to take your first bite. I would not, on the other hand, recommend dishing out even the measly 65 cents for their sugar cookies. Its cute size and colorful sprinkles will lure you in, but its dry tastelessness will quickly turn you off. In a completely out of character act of defiance against my food, I crushed the cookie into crumbs and tossed in the trash, once outside, of course; always be polite, no need to be rude.

It cannot be ignored that the general service is a bit sub par. Nonetheless, they were accommodating, allowing us to split our check six ways, and perfectly friendly. Over all, the delicious feast and dance in your seat tunes playing softly throughout the restaurant, even in the bathroom, makes for a glorious occasion that far out weighs any con.

Cafe CaNole Bistro and Pastry Shop is located at 1 Campion Rd, New Hartford, NY.13413 (315-733-6592). Ancora! Restaurant is located at 261 Genesee St. Utica, NY,13502 (315-724-4815). Their website (for both restaurants) is http://www.cafecanole.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAILEY HAYMAN '14

Clams and broccoli with linguini in a white wine sauce.

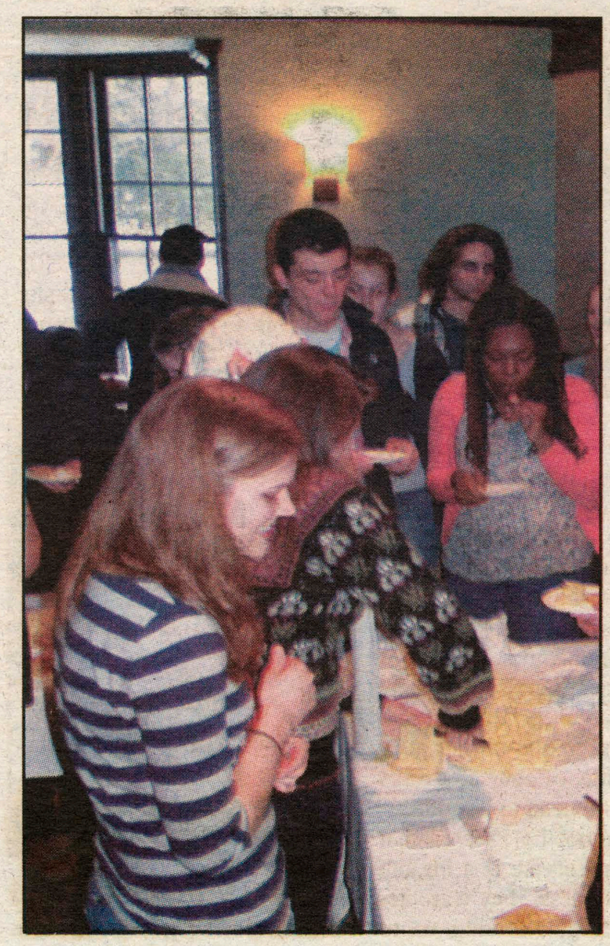
Salmon with spinach and truffled whipped potatoes.

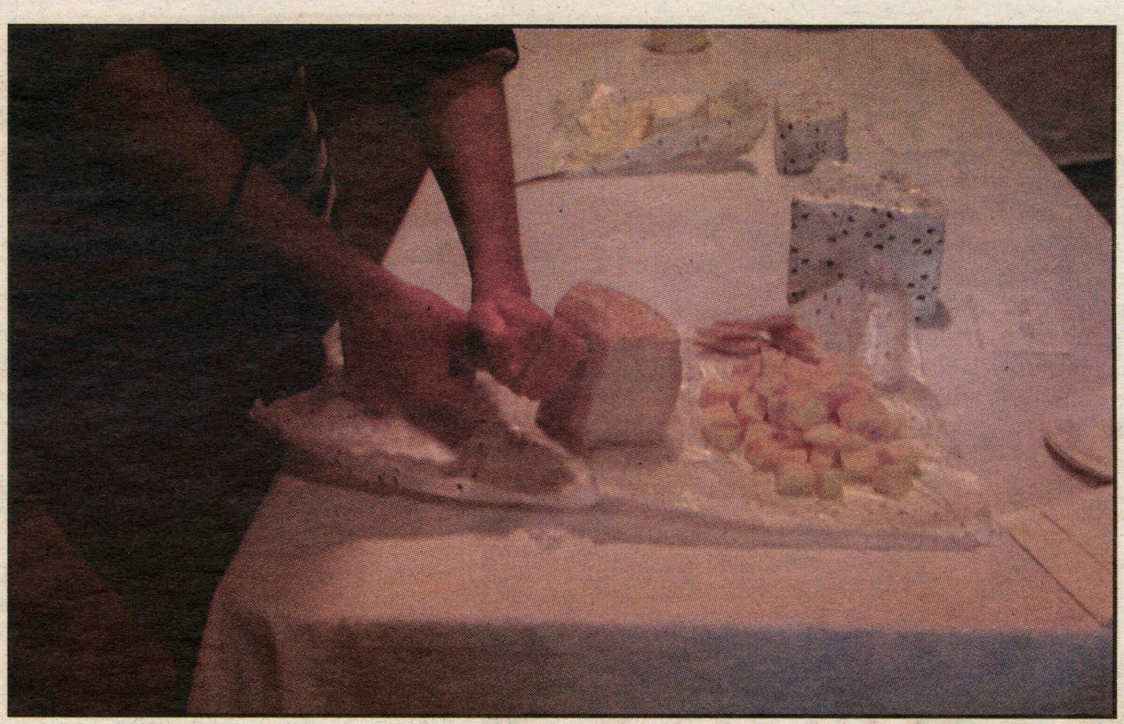
Disney on (Hamilton) Ice

At right: members of both the Hamilton Figure Skating Club and Synchronized Skating Team opened the Tuesday evening performance with "Topsy Turvy" from *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Below: Members of the Hamilton Synchronized Skating Team close the evening with "I'll Make a Man Out of You" from *Mulan*. Other performances included "Under the Sea," "Heads Will Roll," "A Whole New World" and "Just Around the Riverbend." Keith MacArtney '13 and Harper Gany-Beitler '13 served as emcees of the event.

PHOTOS BY ALICJA ZAK '15

Slow Food Cheese Tasting





PHOTOS BY LIA PARKER-BELFER '16

On Monday, Hamilton College Slow Food held a cheese tasting. Students, as well as two local producers, attended the events and enjoyed seven different types of cheese, all locally produced. Kinds included: Simple Chevre and Cream Cheese from the Jones Family Farm, Lorenzo from Meadowood Farm, Young Thom, Cumin Cheese and Softy from Dutch Girl Cheese and Chevre from Lively Run.

DESIGN BY ZOE TESSLER '16

Chocolate Tasting

PHOTOS BY KEVIN PRIOR '13

On Wednesday, Bon Appétit held its annual Chocolate Tasting in the Sadove living room. Alongside Valentine's Day appropriate flower arrangements, chocolate treats covered the table, and were continually refilled throughout the one and a half hour event. Desserts included chocolate cake, chocolate cheesecake, chocolate mousse, chocolate Rice Krispy treats, chocolate-dipped coconut macaroons, Hershey's kisses, and dark and white chocolate chips.

Feb Fest events for the rest of the week

THURSDAY

5 p.m., Little Pub: Beer Tasting
6 p.m., Filus Events Barn: Vagina Monologues
8 p.m., Chapel: IMF concert feat. Jeff Mangum

FRIDAY

7:30 p.m., Royce Field: Fireworks
9 p.m., Filius Events Barn: Dinner Party Club Late Nite Snow Ball

SATURDAY

1 p.m., Little Pub: 20th Annual Chilli Cook-Off
10 p.m., Tolles Pavillion: ELS presents The Rocky Horror Picture Show Party

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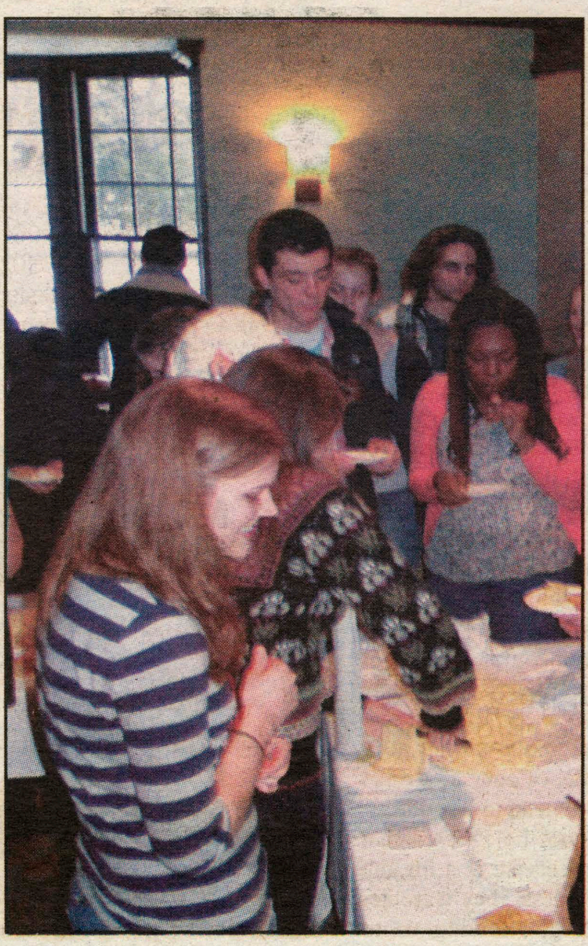

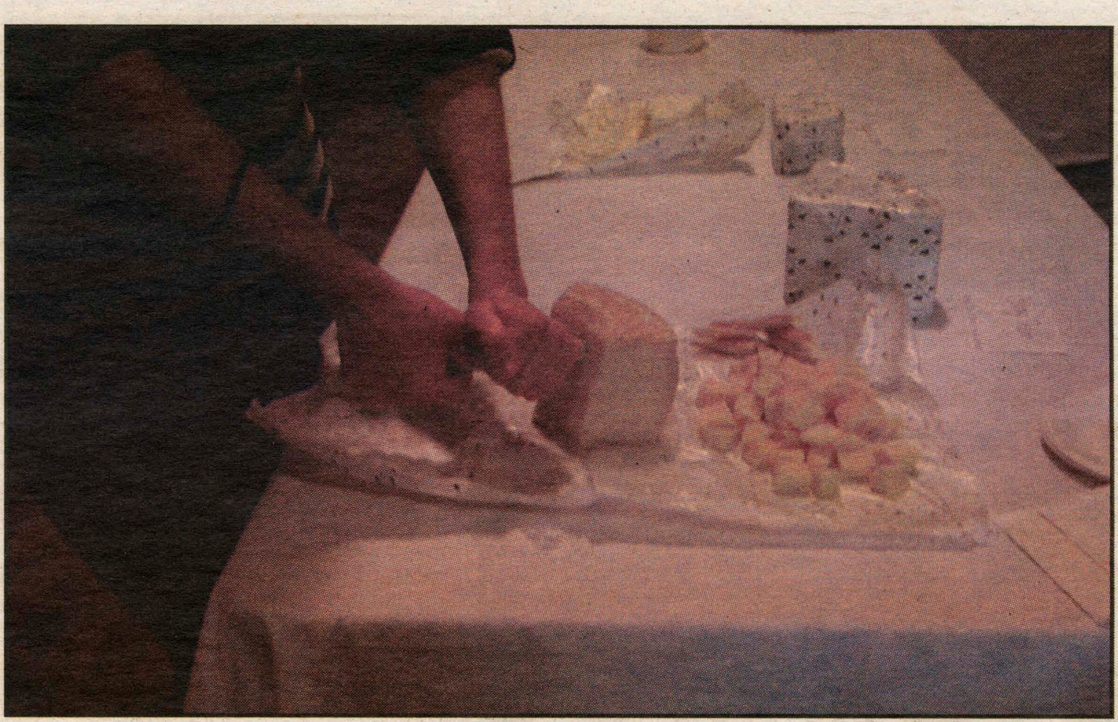

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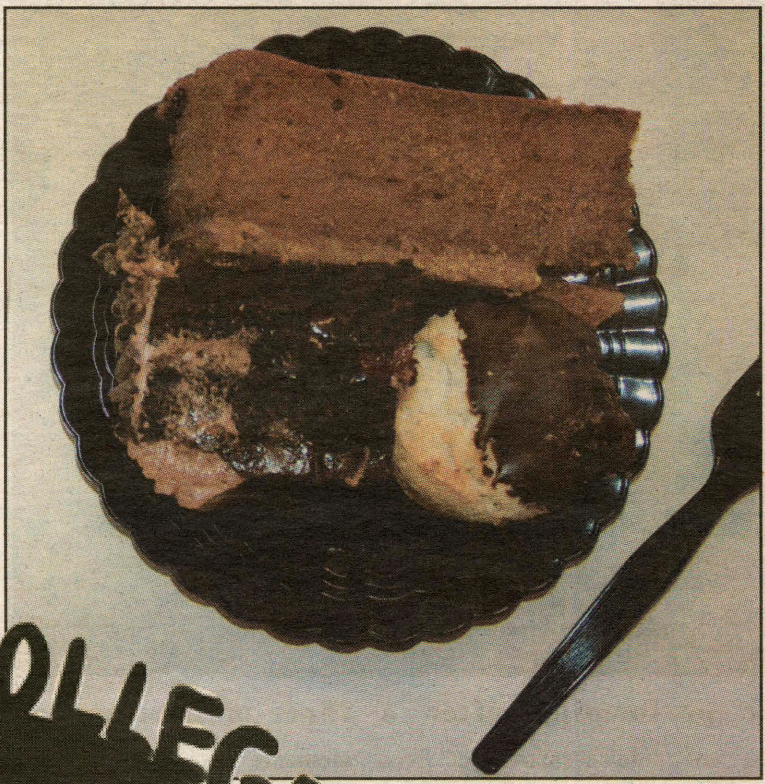

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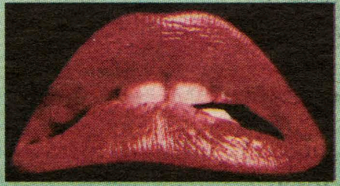

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Josh Ritter captivates audience at acoustic coffeehouse

by Jack McManus '13
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Before the doors opened at 7:30 p.m. there were already a few dozen students in line to enter the Barn, a sure sign that excitement was running high for this week's special Tuesday edition of Acoustic Coffeehouse with Josh Ritter. Returning to the stage after a three-month hiatus—during which he became a first-time father and announced a new album—Josh's excitement matched the audience's, ensuring a special night of song debuts, intimate performances and the spirit of sublime wintertime joy that FebFest embodies.

Oklahoma-based singer/songwriter Samantha Crain opened the event with a charismatic solo set that included several songs from her upcoming album *Kid Face*. Crain's songs all shared a distinct sound that relied mainly on her dexterous guitar fingerpicking and confident vocals, which quivered with subtle vibrato on almost every note. Although she admitted a lack of experience performing in such a featured role, Crain engaged the audience with her honest lyrics and personable stage presence, once pausing to explain that a loose bridge pin on her mahogany Martin guitar threatened to end the show at any moment.

Without any drums or amps to be arranged, there was a quick set break before Ritter took the stage just after 9 p.m. Standing alone on stage, he started with a stirring version of "Idaho," accompanying himself on guitar for the song, which he usually sings a cappella. He followed this haunting opener with "Monster Ballads," another old favorite, before inviting the mustachioed Zach Hickman to join him on upright bass for a reworked version of "Rumors." Usually a full band workout, this acoustic arrangement featured a frenzied, neck-climbing bass solo from Hickman that drew a mid-song burst of applause from the packed Barn. Guitarist Austin Nevins then joined Josh and Zach to perform "Wolves" as an acoustic trio, with Josh dropping to his knees to shout the passionate last verse into his mic from a distance. About half of the evening's songs would use this lineup, including most of the brand new tunes like "Joy To You Baby," "Nightmares" and "Bonfire," all from his upcoming album *The Beast In Its Tracks*, which will come out on March 5.

After a businesslike opening segment, Josh started opening up to the crowd after aborting "Temptation of Adam" during its first line to tell the audience about the song's inspiration—a 100lb. bag of potatoes he used to keep in his basement. While he spoke to the audience with his trademark wit and sophisticated silliness, these moments of banter sometimes exposed his nervousness as he struggled to organize his thoughts. Later in the show he admitted that unveiling his new set of personal songs made him unusually nervous, but the few mistakes were graciously forgiven by the respectful audience.

PHOTO BY KEVIN PRIOR '13

Josh Ritter is now performing after a three-month hiatus.

Josh excused his bandmates after a bouncy "Me and Jiggs" about halfway through the set, unplugging his guitar and stepping away from the microphones to play a stunning unamplified version of "Girl In The War," which he smoothly transitioned into "Naked As A Window," an underrated bonus track from his 2007 album *The Historical Conquests of Josh Ritter*. He followed the emotional lover's lament with a firey, aggressive take on "Rattling Locks," one of his most intimidating songs. Still solo and unamplified, he let loose with loud stomps of his feet and wailing screams that that audience didn't seem to expect from the usually good-natured, upbeat performer.

Barreling straight past his 10:30 ending time, Josh followed up his lighthearted new song "New Lover" with his most humorous of the night, a narrative with a surprise ending entitled "Sir Galahad" that he released on an outtakes EP in 2011. Changing moods entirely, a student called out a request for "Here At The Right Time," one of his quietest ballads, and he happily complied. With curfew long broken, Josh ended the set with the bubbly new song "In Your Arms Again" and crowd-favorite "Kathleen."

Despite a few minor nervous moments, Josh's gracious and endearing presence quickly won over the crowd, who deserve acknowledgement for their respectful silence during the show's quietest moments. With many of the show's debuts focusing on the traumatic end of his marriage, Josh really exposed himself at times, even admitting that he's "not used to talking about this stuff" on stage, but the crowd was respective and appreciative of all the new material. Josh's yearlong tour started Wednesday night in Albany, and when he left Hamilton on Tuesday night to start preparing he surely left a lot of new Josh Ritter fans in his wake.

Michael Ian Black fills Wellin with people, laughter

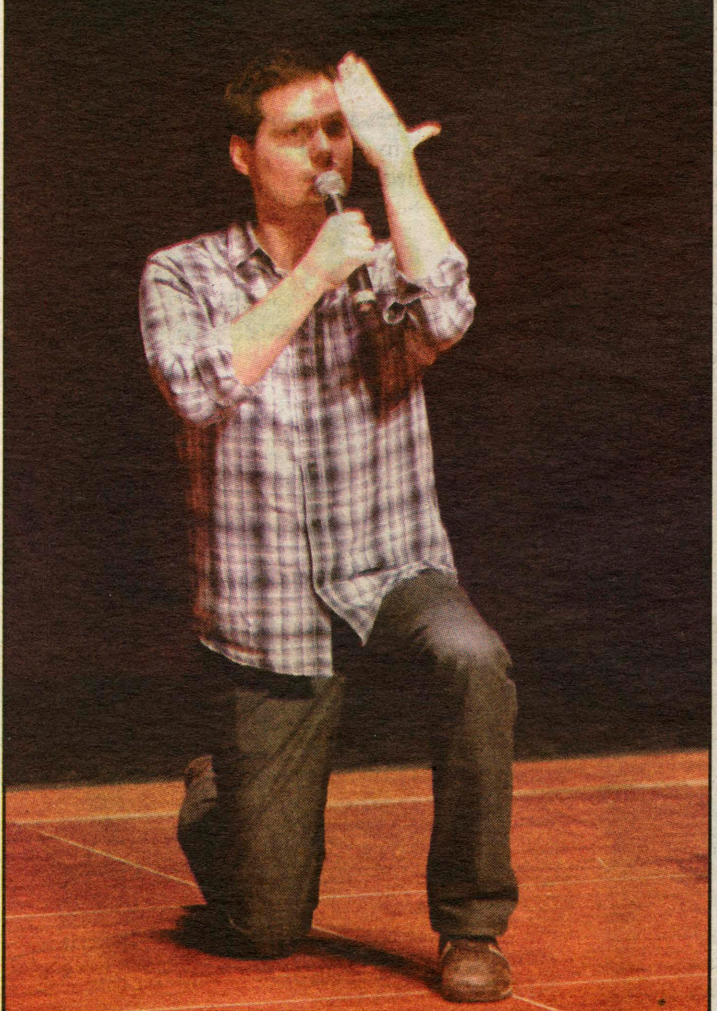

PHOTO BY SARA MEISSNER '13

Black tells a humiliating and hilarious doctor's office story.

by Taylor Coe '13
Creative Director

Michael Ian Black prefers uncomfortable situations.

When he has the opportunity to make an awkward moment more awkward, he leaps at it. After polling a crowded Wellin Hall, nearly filled to its 698-person capacity, about who had a Valentine and who was single (the singles let out a roar), Black asked all single heterosexual women to raise their hands. Only a few brave souls volunteered, and Black selected a woman in the front row. Then he asked the inevitable next question: Any single heterosexual men? Another front-row attendee raised his hand. Black, digging deep into the discomfort, paired them off, making them sit next to one another for the remaining half-hour of his stand-up act.

Handing the male student a five-dollar bill, he said, "Take Emma to the Commons after the show, get her breakfast and…who knows? Breakfast might lead to breakfast!"

One of the highlights of Black's set was this weird insistence on linguistic irregularity: his pronunciation of "subtle" with an audible "b" (a meta-joke in and of itself), his awkward definite article before every "pot" mention in the story of his Amsterdam honeymoon and even his twisted use of the word "breakfast," which, in the context of his joke, provides a definition that you definitely would not find in *Webster's*.

"Strangers don't find me funny," said Black at the beginning of his act, "and that's really bad when your job is to be a comedian."

Black went on to narrate two encounters with strangers that sounded decidedly unfunny in context. One of them involved a waitress who made the relatively normal claim that her restaurant could make any pizza that he wanted. Black, choosing subtlety over silliness, asked whether or not pepperoni would be a possible topping. When the waitress replied that they could definitely create such a pizza, Black had a moment: Who was now messing with whom in this situation?

It is this strange awareness of how humor works, paired with all these linguistic oddities, that enables us to consider Black's work a kind of meta-comedy, extremely aware of itself. Humor clearly infects all areas of his life, along with thinking about that humor.

In an interview before the show, Black proved to be just as sharp-witted off stage as he was when on stage. When asked about how much his two children, ages 12 and nine, understand his brand of humor, Black was frank, but weirdly funny.

"I'm basically an intellectual," said Black. "I'm like a philosopher-king. So my fart jokes probably go over the heads of 90% of adults, let alone children, little children who can't possibly understand the nuances and social satire of my fart jokes."

The only off moment in Black's entire set was a long story about the history of a high school punk rock band. After a string of riotously funny moments, this narrative forced audiences to endure minutes of silence. What felt like a build towards a gutsy punch line ended up being the minor revelation that the bassist who Black fired from their punk band—"the only legitimate punk rocker among us," as he noted—ended up being the leader of his own successful punk band twenty years later.

But the story lacked the punch that the rest of his material had; it was rambling, inconclusive and not very funny.

Thankfully, that longer story proved at odds with the rest of his set, which explored several episodes of Black's life so sordid that they cannot be printed in these pages. And that's a good thing, isn't it?

Iolanthe performances showcase choir talent

PHOTOS BY EMILY COMATOS '15

G. Roberts Kolb, Hamilton's director of choral activities, directed the classic Gilberts and Sullivan musical.

by Zoe Bodzas '16
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

This past weekend, the Hamilton College Choir's production of *Iolanthe* dazzled students and the community with Gilbert and Sullivan's classic fairy operetta. Directed by G. Roberts Kolb, performances were Feb. 8, 9, and 10 in Wellin Hall.

When the curtain rises, a lighthearted, prancing fairyland unfolds on stage. The scene stales slightly when someone mentions their banished sister Iolanthe, punished for marrying a mortal. The Queen of the Fairies relents and reinstates beloved Iolanthe to fairyhood, and in the process we meet her half-fairy, half-human son, Strephon, and his love interest, Phyllis. Enter the Lord Chancellor and the Peers, with each pompous nobleman eager for Phyllis's hand in marriage. Needless to say, the trajectory of this love story gets complicated as fantasy and political commentary rumble in *Iolanthe.*

This musical is largely tongue-in-cheek, and the students pull off the Gilbert and Sullivan comedy with ease. From the beautiful orchestral overture to the satisfyingly goofy final moments, when the ensemble sang in gleeful preparation for fairyland, that is- *Iolanthe* dazzled. In electrically illuminated flower crowns, the chorus of fairies giggled and skipped. In crowns and fancy capes, the chorus of the Peers paraded and bumbled around self-importantly, fitting for political satire. The entertaining character of these separate choruses nevertheless still showcased brilliantly the talents of the choir. This past weekend, soloists also showed off some amazing talent; audience members found that cast members seemed to have a knack for both comedy and notes that give you chills.

One of the most impressive aspects of this professional-feeling rendition of *Iolanthe* is that director Rob Kolb and the chorus students prepared this performance in less than a month. Choir members praise his energy and talent in working so quickly and effectively.

Brian Evans, who played the Lord Chancellor, comments, "This year was especially challenging because the choir was working with a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, but the choir took initiative and managed to pull together an enjoyable performance."

The experience itself was invaluable to team building and group bonding for the choir as they prepare for touring in Italy over spring break. Alexandra Kaplan, who played Phyllis, said, "We have a great group of kids in the choir and the musical acts as a major bonding activity for us as a group of 65 students." Evans agreed with this benefit of the production, noting that "it brought the individual members together. Every individual began to feel like they were a part of something larger."

Kolb and his choir staged the musical after only one month of rehearsal.

Student-run television station coming to the Hill

by Kaitlin McCabe '16
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Between the radio network WHCL and the multiple print publications on campus, Hamilton College provides students with various opportunities to express themselves through the media. Though the college successfully reaches out to the community through these particular outlets, it has lacked one obvious means of communication: its own television network. The original idea of Hamilton TV arose in the 90s, but its failure to produce any results placed the project into a lengthy hiatus. In the beginning of last semester, however, the mission was revived by Nile Berry '14 and Max Schnidman '14.

According to Matthew Sherman '13, the creative director of HCTV, the primary goal of the network is to provide "original and substantive content" to the Hamilton community through students' original content, which ranges from news broadcasts to lighthearted and humorous talk shows. Through HCTV (Channel 60), students have the unique ability to independently edit and produce their own creations. Sherman and the other members of the television network's executive board, Stacy Marris '13, Cailin Chang '13, and Jonathan Fass '13, are also avidly working to launch the television network. One focus of the board this semester has been to form partnerships with certain campus organizations and allow those organizations to expand their media outlets. They currently meet bi-weekly with the Student Media Board to discuss HCTV's progress.

Currently, the organization is seeking to build awareness and student interest in HCTV. Any interested students are encouraged to get involved in the development of the program by attending weekly meetings, which typically are help Thursday nights at 7 p.m. in Sadove Student Center. These meetings are announced via e-mail and through the organization's Facebook page. Students are also welcome to check out HCTV's Facebook page and Twitter account (@hctv1812) in order to boost its popularity.

Lisa Magnarelli, the associate dean of students for student engagement and leadership, has great confidence in the ongoing development of HCTV. She said, "I think HCTV has the potential to be a great addition to our campus media. By highlighting Hamilton events and offering the opportunity for original programming or student film-making, I think it offers a creative outlet not available through any other organization."

The ultimate success of HCTV relies upon the enthusiasm and interest of Hamilton's student body. As the board gathers content for the network, its members urge students to come to meetings and share their ideas for an original show on the network. HCTV can provide students with the entertainment and outlet for expression that they desire, but this can only be accomplished if students speak up and participate in the creation of the next great media organization on campus.

WHCL CORNER

Show Profile:

The Endless Summer

Sunday, 10 a.m.

with

Marcus Sotelo '15 and Kendra O'Connor '15

Sounds Like:
The OC meets the Hamptons (the best of both worlds)

Expect to hear:
We play a mix of modern summertime bands and popular throwbacks that will have you reminiscing about summers past. We also banter about everything and anything to do with the summer.

What song do you love (or love to hate) in the Diner Jukebox?
"Temperature" by Sean Paul. I'm guilty of playing it whenever I make it to Diner B.

This song goes out to...
Anyone who can sing along but doesn't actually know what the heck Sean Paul is saying.

Albums or songs you can expect to hear:
You can expect to hear artists ranging from Grouplove, Wavves, The Morning Benders and Vampire Weekend to throwbacks such as "S.O.S." by Rihanna (bringin' back summertime memories already?).

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Nathan Williams (left) and his bandmates in Wavves

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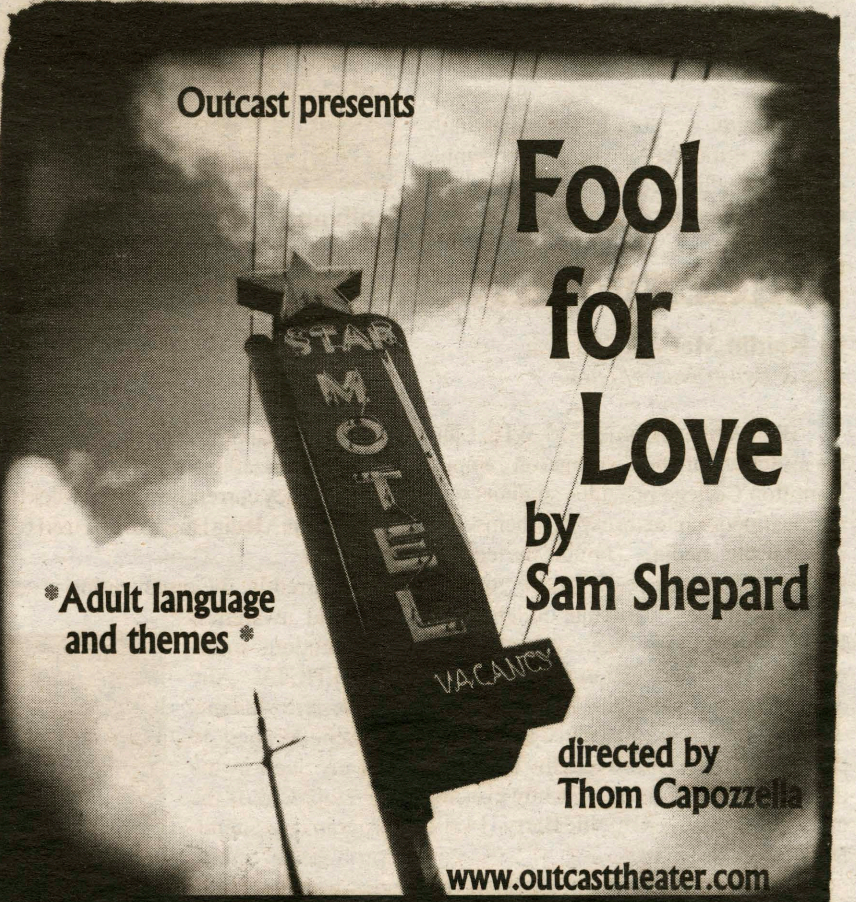

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HAMILTON SPORTS
WINTER STANDINGS

MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD
Placed third at the Can Am Invitational on Dec. 1 @ St. Lawrence University
Next Meet: RIT Tiger Invitational on Feb. 15

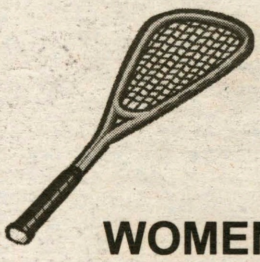
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Overall Record: 12-10-0
NESCAC Record: 3-6-0

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Overall Record: 12-12-0
NESCAC Record: 3-7-0

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD
Placed third at the Can Am Invitational on Dec. 1 @ St. Larence University
Next Meet: RIT Tiger Invitational on Feb. 15

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING
Placed second at the Hamilton College Invitational Dec. 1-2
Next Meet: NESCAC Championship Feb. 22-24 @ Wesleyan University

WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING
Placed first at the Hamilton College Invitational Dec. 1-2
Next Meet: NESCAC Championship Feb. 15 @ Bowdoin College



MEN'S SQUASH
Overall Record: 7-11-0
Next Competition: CSA Team Championship Feb. 22-24 @ Yale Univeristy

WOMEN'S SQUASH
Overall Record: 10-9-0
Next Competition: Women's Team Championship Feb. 15-17 @ Yale University

MEN'S ICE HOCKEY
Overall Record: 6-13-3
NESCAC Record: 4-10-2
Next Game: Feb. 15 vs. Middlebury 7 p.m. in Sage Rink

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY
Overall Record: 11-10-1
NESCAC Record: 5-8-1
Next Game: Feb. 16 vs. Colby 7 p.m. in Sage Rink

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Men's basketball falls to Bates in final minutes

by Zachary Young '15
Sports Contributor

The Continentals were deadlocked with Bates in the conference at 3-5 and 3-6 respectively heading into their matchup this Saturday in Lewiston, Maine. With NESCAC playoff seeding in the balance, this game was vital for both teams. Hamilton started off strongly, opening the contest on an 11-3 run. They shot an impressive 50% from the court in the first half, while Bates was held to only 39% shooting.

Sophomore Peter Kazickas got hot in the first half, dropping nine points without missing a shot, while the team assisted on eight of its 13 shots. Defensively, the Continentals shut down the three-point game of Bates, holding them to only two made threes on seven attempts. These factors contributed to the Continentals leading for the entirety of the first half, going into the break ahead with a score of 31-25.

Although they put forth a strong effort, the Continentals were unable to get a leg up on Bates. The Bobcats fought back in the second half, led by some absurd three-point shooting. They hit seven threes on 10 attempts while assisting on nine of their 11 made baskets in the half.

Bates took the lead for the first time with 10:39 left to play. The game went back and forth from there, coming to a tie at 49-49 with 4:12 left in the game. But after taking a five-point lead, the Continentals saw Bates hit back-to-back three pointers to take a 57-56 lead with 1:10 to play.

Neither team was able to make a shot from that point on, and after fouling intentionally, the Continentals missed a three point shot with three seconds left to tie the game. This resulted in a tough loss of 59-56.

Kazickas finished 6-7 from the field with 13 points, and fellow sophomore Bradley Gifford added 10 points and seven rebounds after scoring eight points in a row late in the game.

In relation to his team's defense down the stretch, Head Coach Adam Stockwell commented, "getting just one stop in the last two minutes would have gone a long way towards changing the outcome. Bates deserves a lot of credit for making the game-winning plays on both ends down the stretch."

With the loss, Hamilton fell to eighth place in the conference. The Continentals were scheduled to face Tufts on Sunday, but due to the weather, the game was postponed. If the regular season ended then, the Continentals would have faced top-ranked seed Amherst in the first round.

However, the Conts faced off against the number four Jumbos on Tuesday night in their last regular season game.

While Hamilton pulled within three points midway through the second half, Tufts' dominated for a majority of the night. Four Jumbos scored in the double figures and the team shot from 39% behind the three-point arc.

Despite the loss, it was a strong final performance for Hamilton, with seniors Ken Click and Eric Benvenuti scoring a combined 21 points. The Continentals finish the 2012-13 season at ninth in the NESCAC Conference at 12-12. Still grappling with the switch to the formidable NESCAC, the team hopes to find a stronger footing in the conference next season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Seniors like Hans Schulte played hard through the end of the season.

Nice on Ice: Curling team excels at local bonspiel

by Alex Orlov '13
Sports Columnist

Last Saturday the Hamilton College Curling Team braved the snow to compete in the third annual Utica Curling Club College Bonspiel. Three teams of Hamilton students competed against curlers from Binghamton, RIT, Syracuse, University of Pennsylvania, Colgate and Bowling Green State.

A team composed of Tara Huggins '14, Emma Taylor '13 and Maggie Doolin '14 had an impressive fourth place finish, and the other two Hamilton teams came in eighth and ninth place out of 10 teams. Earlier this season, Hamilton also competed at a bonspiel at RPI.

According to President Kevin Welsh '15, all 30 of the students on Hamilton's roster had no prior curling experience before joining the team. The group practices Sundays at the Utica Curling Club where the local owners provide guidance, though they are not the team's formal coaches.

"The number one rule of curling is: don't take curling too seriously," says Welsh with a laugh. "You don't do curling for the street cred." Nevertheless, he notes that it's such a ridiculous sport that people are usually "weirdly fascinated" when he mentions that he competes on Hamilton's team, which was founded in 2005.

And it'd be hard not to smile when someone explains the odd yet somewhat endearing rules of this gentlemanly sport. Two teams of four players take turns sliding 24-pound stones across one sheet of ice, with the goal being to get the stones as close to a circular target on the opposite side of the sheet. Similar to the lawn game bocce, points are given to the team whose stones are closest to the target, known as the "house." Eight stones are curled by each team during an "end", which is analogous to an inning in baseball. During each match up, six ends are played.

Welsh serves as "skip" for his team of four. The skip stands at the end of the ice sheet and gives strategic commands to the other three players, one of which curls, or throws, the stone, and two of which use brooms to sweep in front of the stone as it slides down the sheet. The other positions are called "vice skip," "second" and "lead."

"The number one rule of curling is: don't take curling too seriously."
—Kevin Welsh '15

"Even a little speck of dirt can ruin [a curl]," says Kayla Winters '13, the team captain, noting that carefully maintained curling ice is very different from the ice found in hockey rinks. Water droplets are sprayed onto a curling ice sheet order to "pebble" it, and the sheet somewhat resembles an orange peel.

While other collegiate curling teams obsess over the physics of the sport, the Hamilton Curling Team prioritizes fun and camaraderie while playing. "We stand out from other teams in that way," says Winters, who says that the one of her favorite parts of curling is getting to know students she never would have met otherwise. Since Winters' first year, the team has grown from under 10 members to over 30.

With all the weird curling rules and traditions, Winters says she sometimes feels like she's part of a cult. She explains that before a final event at a bonspiel, bagpipe music is played and everyone stomps the sweeping brooms to the beat of the music. Players are then supposed to take a shot of alcohol or ginger ale. Additionally, the expression "Good Curling!" is used frequently; it can express good luck, congratulations on a good shot, or gratitude for a well-played game.

Scan the QR code for a video stream from the Bonspiel

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KAYLA WINTERS '13

Above, members of the Hamilton Curling Team. Below, Chris Lepre '15 prepares to sweep at the Utica Bonspiel.

SPECTATOR SPORTS
February 14, 2013

Alexis '13 soars in Hamilton Invitational

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Jimmy Alexis vaulted 4.55 meters this season, just one inch short of the school record. He hopes to qualify for Nationals in Chicago.

by Yoshi Hill '16
Sports Contributor

In the opening event of the Hamilton Invitational, Senior Rachel Cackett raced ahead of the competition and triumphed in the 5000 meter run with a personal best, setting the tone for the Continentals' second and final home meet of the season. Hamilton achieved top finishes in the majority of its events, displaying nearly complete dominance in them.

"What makes this season different is the energy level of our team; we are highly competitive and really developing a strong bond," said senior captain Jimmy Alexis.

Throughout the day, first-years distinguished themselves and proved that they are ready to contribute to the team in a big way. One of the surprises of the day was Sarah Lewis '16. In her first attempt at the pole-vault at the collegiate level, she won with a height of 2.75 meters, qualifying her for states.

After several laps into the women's mile, Adrian Walsh '16 captured the lead and maintained it for the rest of the race. Sophomore Halina Loft followed three seconds later to finish in second place. First-year Jessye McGarry completed the 800 just seven seconds after second place finisher Krystina Choinski '15. Choinski missed first place by milliseconds. Andrew Mandelbaum '16 raced ahead of the field in the 800 for first place, followed by Robert Clayton '15 and Brooks Rozelle '16, who managed third and fourth, respectively.

First-year Leonard Kilekwang continued to prove that he will be a vital member of the team, finishing second in the long jump and prevailing in the triple jump by a considerable margin. Finally, in the men's mile, first-years Evan Abelson, Jack Moses and Charles Pfander finished third through fifth.

The comfort of remaining on campus motivated the athletes to push themselves in the friendly confines of Margaret Bundy Scott Field House. Sophomore Joe Jensen says in relation to home meets that "it means a lot to compete in front of your friends."

Jensen collected first in both the 200 and 400-meter dashes with impressive times. He also ran the first leg of the 4x400 relay, cruising in front of the competition and providing his teammates with plenty of cushion to win the race comfortably.

> **"Life without pole vaulting is scary! [...] I am struggling to find something as exhilarating, but not as dangerous."**
> *—Jimmy Alexis '13*

The Continentals could not be stopped in the middle and long distance events. Junior Kerry Reilly never looked back in the 1000 meters, forging a fifteen second gap between her and the next competitor.

Captain Hashem Zikry '13 methodically picked off his opponents one by one and then held the lead the rest of the way. As he crossed the finish line, the second place competitor from Utica was half a lap behind. Last year, Zikry qualified for the prestigious ECAC D-III tournament held in New York at the beginning of March. Juniors Sam Reider and Jake London were also asked to compete in this event. Reider prevailed in the 500-meter dash and London attained second place.

Off the track, Will Tifft '14 significantly improved on his personal record in the weight throw and took first with a distance of 14.92 m. Captain Miles Blackburn '13 managed second in the triple jump.

"The field athletes really stepped up their game this weekend, which I think will carry on into States," said Tifft.

Those words could not be truer for senior captain Jimmy Alexis. Having already qualified for the ECAC tournament earlier this season, Alexis destroyed the competition in the pole vault and anchored the victorious 4x400 team.

Alexis has been competing in track and field for a decade, with impressive performances as both a sprinter and a vaulter. While his career as a competitive athlete will end at Hamilton, Alexis is sure he will continue to pursue athletics in his post graduate life.

"Life without pole vaulting is scary!" said Alexis. "But, life without sports is even worse. So, I don't expect to ever stop competing, but as my pole vaulting season comes to a close, I am struggling to find something as exhilarating, but not as dangerous."

The numerous victories at the Hamilton Invitational show that the Continentals are prepared for the end of season tournaments and they look primed for considerable success. Coach Brett Hull summed up the day perfectly. "It was an excellent team effort with a number of season and personal bests and we are poised for a great performance in the state championships."

Hamilton's next meet will be the Tiger Invitational at the Rochester Institute of Technology on Feb. 15.